



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/675,047	09/28/2000	David Kammer	PALM-3196	8585

7590 07/09/2003
WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO LLP
Third Floor
Two North Market Street
San Jose, CA 95113

EXAMINER

LE, LANA N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2685

DATE MAILED: 07/09/2003

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

7

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/675,047

Applicant(s)

KAMMER ET AL.

Examiner

Lana Le

Art Unit

2685

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 September 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-4, 10-12 and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by anticipated by Mahany et al (US 5,657,317).

Regarding claim 1, Mahany et al discloses in a responder device (peripheral LAN slave device) having a transceiver (col 44, lines 62-65) for wireless communication (col 41, lines 40- col 42, line 10), a method for managing responses to signals received from initiator devices (peripheral LAN master devices) (col 40, lines 18-37; col 39, lines 39-42; col 51, lines 14-28), the method comprising the steps of:

a) automatically setting the responder device to discoverable mode to scan for idle messages when the responder device enters awake mode (activation mode during periods 3209, 3213, 3217), wherein the responder device in the discoverable mode scans for wireless signals broadcast by initiator devices (peripheral LAN master devices) (col 51, lines 33-36; lines 37-39; lines 41-49); and

b) automatically setting the responder device to non-discoverable mode (does not scan for idle messages) when the responder device enters standby mode (power

conserving mode during time periods 3211, 3215, 3223) , wherein the responder device in the non-discoverable mode does not scan for wireless signals broadcast by initiator devices (col 51, lines 35-37; lines 39-41; lines 50-53).

Regarding claim 2, Mahany et al further discloses the method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

c) receiving at the responder device a first wireless signal broadcast by an initiator device (col 51, lines 41-45);

d) sending a second wireless signal in response to the first wireless signal when the responder device is in the discoverable mode, wherein the second wireless signal is to be received by the initiator device (col 51, lines 45-47);

e) disregarding the first wireless signal when the responder device is in the non-discoverable mode (during power conserving mode during time periods 3211, 3215, and 3223 even when the LAN master device transmits an idle sense message, the LAN slave device does not receive the idle sense message and does not respond or ignores the message because it is still in power conserving mode, col 51, lines 35-37, lines 39-41, lines 50-53; see also col 52, lines 20-23 when the master device transmit the idle sense message and doesn't receive a response from the slave device when it determines that no communication is desired.

Regarding claim 10, Mahany et al discloses in a responder device (peripheral LAN slave device), having a transceiver for wireless communication (col 44, lines 62-65), a method for managing responses to signals received from initiator devices (peripheral LAN master device), the method comprising the steps of:

a) receiving at the responder device a first wireless signal broadcast (idle messages) by an initiator device, wherein the first wireless signal is to be received by responder devices within range of the initiator device (col 51, lines 33-36, lines 41-49; col 44, lines 41-65);

b) automatically entering a discoverable mode (scanning for idle messages mode) when the responder device enters awake mode (activation mode during periods 3209, 3213, and 3217) (col 51, lines 33-36; lines 37-39, lines 41-49), wherein the responder device in the discoverable mode sends a second wireless signal (clear to send message) wherein the second wireless signal is to be received by the initiator device (col 51, lines 45-47).

c) automatically entering a non-discoverable mode (does not scan for idle messages mode) when the responder device enters standby mode (power conserving mode), wherein the responder device in the non-discoverable mode does not send a response to the first wireless signal (during power conserving mode during time periods 3211, 3215, and 3223 even when the LAN master device transmits an idle sense message, the LAN slave device does not receive the idle sense message and does not respond or ignores the message because it is still in power conserving mode, col 51, lines 35-37, lines 39-41, lines 50-53; see also col 52, lines 20-23 when the master device transmit the idle sense message and doesn't receive a response from the slave device when it determines that no communication is desired).

Regarding claims 3 and 11, Mahany et al further discloses the method as recited in claims 2 and 10 respectively, further comprising the step of:

f) receiving a third wireless signal (transmit data) from the initiator device, wherein the third wireless signal is a directed signal sent to the responder device in response to the second wireless signal (col 51, lines 48-50).

Regarding claims 4 and 12, Mahany et al further discloses the method as recited in claims 3 and 11 respectively, wherein the responder device is in a connectable mode at all times (either in power conserve mode or activation mode), wherein the responder device in the connectable mode automatically responds to directed signals (col 51, lines 29-53).

Regarding claim 18, Mahany et al discloses a responder device (peripheral LAN slave device), comprising:

a bus connected to interface 3115 (fig. 30; col 48, lines 24-34);

a wireless transceiver unit 3110 coupled to the bus and for communicating with initiator devices (peripheral LAN master device) (col 49, lines 24-39);

and a processor 3121 coupled to the bus, the processor for performing a method for managing responses to signals received from the initiator devices (col 49, lines 40-59), the method comprising the steps of:

a) automatically setting the responder device (peripheral LAN slave device) to discoverable mode (scanning for idle messages mode) when the responder device enters awake mode (activation mode during periods 3209, 3213, and 3217), wherein the responder device in the discoverable mode scans for wireless signals broadcast by the initiator devices (col 51, lines 33-36; lines 37-39, lines 41-49); and

Art Unit: 2685

b) automatically setting the responder device to non-discoverable mode (does not scan for idle messages mode) when the responder device enters standby mode (power conserving mode during time periods 3211, 3215, and 3223), wherein the responder device in the non-discoverable mode does not scan for wireless signals broadcast by the initiator devices (peripheral LAN master device) (col 51, lines 35-37, lines 39-41, lines 50-53).

Regarding claim 19, Mahany et al further discloses the method as recited in Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

c) receiving at the responder device a first wireless signal broadcast by an initiator device (col 51, lines 41-45);

d) sending a second wireless signal in response to the first wireless signal when the responder device is in the discoverable mode, wherein the second wireless signal is to be received by the initiator device (col 51, lines 45-47);

e) disregarding the first wireless signal when the responder device is in the non-discoverable mode (during power conserving mode during time periods 3211, 3215, and 3223 even when the LAN master device transmits an idle sense message, the LAN slave device does not receive the idle sense message and does not respond or ignores the message because it is in power conserving mode, col 51, lines 35-37, lines 39-41, lines 50-53; see also col 52, lines 20-23 when the master device transmit the idle sense message and doesn't receive a response from the slave device when it determines that no communication is desired).

Regarding claim 20, Mahany et al further discloses the responder device of

claim 19 further comprising the step of:

f) receiving a third wireless signal (transmit data) from the initiator device, wherein the third wireless signal is a directed signal sent to the responder device in response to the second wireless signal (col 51, lines 48-50).

Regarding claim 21, Mahany et al further discloses responder device of claim 20 wherein the responder device is in a connectable mode at all times (either in power conserve mode or activation mode), wherein the responder device in the connectable mode automatically responds to directed signals (col 51, lines 29-53).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 5-8, 13-16, and 22-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mahany et al (US 5,657,317) in view of admitted prior art.

Regarding claims 5 and 13, Mahany et al further discloses the method as recited in claim 2 and 11 respectively, wherein the initiator device and the responder device are in short-range communication (col 39, lines 39-42). Mahany et al didn't specifically disclose Bluetooth-enabled devices. However, it is well known in the art as is admitted in figure 1 of applicant's disclosure (page 3, lines 5-7, page 1, lines 18-21) that short

range communication comprises of Blue-tooth enabled devices. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use bluetooth devices in order to allow the multiple mobile devices to communicate consistently with each other by data synchronization.

Regarding claims 6 and 14, the admitted prior art further discloses the method as recited in claim 5 and 13 respectively, wherein the first wireless signal is an inquiry message requesting an address for the responder device (page 2, lines 19-22; page 3, lines 10-12).

Regarding claims 7 and 15, the admitted prior art further discloses the method as recited in claim 6 and 13 respectively, wherein the second wireless signal comprises the address for the responder device (page 3, lines 20-24).

Regarding claims 8 and 16, the admitted prior art further discloses the method as recited in claims 7 and 15 respectively, wherein the third wireless signal is a page message 44a directed to the address and comprising a request for a name of the responder device (page 4, line 21 – page 5, line 2).

Regarding claim 22, Mahany et al further discloses the responder device of claim 20, wherein the initiator device and the responder device are in short-range communication (col 39, lines 39-42). Mahany et al didn't specifically disclose Bluetooth-enabled devices. However, it is well known in the art as is admitted in figure 1 of applicant's disclosure (page 3, lines 5-7, page 1, lines 18-21) that short range communication comprises of Bluetooth enabled devices. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use bluetooth

Art Unit: 2685

devices in order to allow the multiple mobile devices to communicate consistently with each other by data synchronization.

Regarding claim 23, the admitted prior art further discloses the responder device of claim 22, wherein the first wireless signal is an inquiry message requesting an address for the responder device (page 2, lines 19-22; page 3, lines 10-12).

Regarding claim 24, the admitted prior art further discloses the responder device of claim 23 wherein the second wireless signal comprises the address for the responder device (page 3, lines 20-24).

Regarding claim 25, the admitted prior art further discloses the responder device of claim 24, wherein the third wireless signal is a page message 44a directed to the address and comprising a request for a name of the responder device (page 4, line 21 - page 5, line 2).

3. Claims 9, 17, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mahany et al (US 5,657,317) in view of Vook et al (US 5,625,882).

Regarding claims 9 and 17, Mahany et al further discloses the method as recited in claims 1 and 10 respectively, wherein Mahany et al didn't further disclose the responder device is a portable computer system. Vook et al discloses the responder device is a portable computer system (col 2, line 55 – col 3, lines 13). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a portable computer system as a responder device in order to have another type of

Application/Control Number: 09/675,047

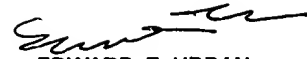
Page 11

Art Unit: 2685



Lana Le

June 30, 2003



EDWARD F. URBAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600